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NSC BRIEFING

24 September 1954

## CURRENT SITUATION - CHINESE OFFSHORE ISLANDS

## I. Continuing Communist threat to Quemoys:

- A. Communist artillery hit Quemoys with 3,600 rounds on 22 September.
- B. Compares with 6,000 rounds on 3 September; 100-200 rounds daily average since 3 September.
- C. Latest shelling may be response to Nationalist strikes.
- D. May presage more aggressive Communist defense of Amoy area, including use of planes.

## II. No signs, however, that Communist land and naval forces being concentrated for invasion of Quemoys.

- A. Also no evidence Communist air units moved closer to Quemoys.

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NO CHANGE IN CLASSIFICATION

FILE NUMBER

CLASS. CHANGED TO: TG S C

NEXT REVIEW DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

AUTH: HR 70-2

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B. Still some chance of Communist air  
and amphibious attacks on Quemoys,  
particularly if US forces in  
area withdrawn.

C. As face-saving alternative,

Communists might attack two tiny  
islands southwest of Quemoys.

III. Continuing Nationalist operations  
in Amoy area:

A. Nationalist air and naval patrols  
along Fukien and Chekiang coasts.

B. Nationalist bombing of mainland  
targets continuing.

C. Reinforced artillery has permitted  
heavier Nationalist counter-fire.

D. Additional tanks soon to be sent;  
demolition teams arriving to  
begin raids on mainland.

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E. Nationalist reported planning raid  
on mainland, in brigade strength,  
after 30 September.

F. This planned raid may be intended  
to provoke Communist counteraction  
and involve US forces.

IV. Renewed threat to Tachens.

A. Unusually large concentration  
Communist shipping observed in  
Haimen area, 25 miles NW of Tachens,  
on 13 September.

B. Two days later, Communist artillery  
fired on Ichiang, 9 miles NW of  
Tachens.

C. Communist air patrolling of area  
between Ningpo and Tachens continues.

D. Shipping necessary to transport  
30,000 troops--enough to take  
Tachens--could be assembled by  
Communists quickly, with little  
warning.

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V. Nationalists alert to threat.

- A. Nationalists have intensified air and sea reconnaissance near Tachens, have ordered supplies to Tachens increased.
- B. Nationalist strength on Tachens about 10,000 regulars, 7,500 guerrillas.

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